GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1350
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2002
DECLINE IN SUGAR PRODUCTION
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country`s sugar production has fallen by over five per cent to 17.5 million tonnes in the current year;

(b) if so, the States where sugar production has fallen;

(c) the main reasons for the same; and

(d) the steps which are being considered to improve sugar output in the year 2001-02?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (S SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a): The sugar production during the current season 2001-02 is provisionally expected to be around 17.5 Million Tonnes as against 18.42 Million Tonnes (Provisional) during the previous season (2000-01), indicating a fall of 0.92 Million Tonne i.e. 4.99% over the previous season.

(b): The fall in production of sugar is mainly in the State of Maharashtra.

(c): According to Government of Maharashtra, the main reasons for the fall in production is unfavourable monsoon condition and diversion of sugarcane for fodder purpose.

(d): The major part of the sugarcane crushing season 2001-02 is going to be over by April, 2002 and as such, it is not possible to do anything to improve sugar output in the current 2001-02 season at this stage.